

R E M A R K S

Claims 1, 4-7, and 9 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1 and 5 are amended herein. The amendments do not add new matter, and are supported throughout the specification and figures. In particular, the amendments are supported at least at page 18, lines 13-16, of the specification. In view of the amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4-7, and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1 is amended herein to remove references to the limitation “ $\alpha\%$ ” and the limitation “in a small value”. Amended claim 1 relates to a network interconnection apparatus for interconnecting a LAN and an ATM network to perform communications. Claim 1 recites that if average traffic volume times α ($1 < \alpha < 2$) is greater than maximum traffic volume, and VBR is judged to be the service category if average traffic volume times α ($1 < \alpha < 2$) is less than or equal to maximum traffic volume, where α is a set value to determine whether the service category is CBR or VBR. Furthermore, in claim 1, if the service category is CBR then the value of CTD is decided to be smaller than the value when the service category is not CBR and if the service category is VBR then the value of CDV is decided to be smaller than when the service category is not VBR. It is respectfully submitted that claim 1 as amended is definite and allowable.

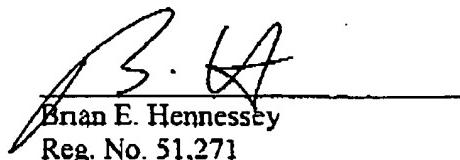
Claim 5 is amended herein to delete the language “to outside”, and it is respectfully submitted that the amended claim is definite and allowable.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider

this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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